ICH & Digital Use

ICH provides an identity to community members and becomes a source of cultural diversity and human creativity. However, many cultural heritage elements are at risk due to recent changes such as globalization, modernization and climate change, especially throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

To be kept alive, ICH must be continuously recreated and transmitted from generation to generation through a series of safeguarding measures, including in digital forms.

The digitally produced or converted data may take on more values when it is shared with other people. ICHCAP is building ichLinks, a user-friendly platform designed for easy data upload and management by its participating members.

ichLinks

An integrated platform made for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to easily share, locate and use the ICH information and contents in the Asia-Pacific region.

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About ICHCAP

The International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHCAP) is the UNESCO Category 2 Center established under the Agreement between UNESCO and the government of the Republic of Korea.

Our main role is to safeguard intangible cultural heritage (ICH) and build greater peace in the Asia-Pacific region, through our key functions: information and networking.

Information Sharing
Establishing mechanisms for effective collection, sharing, and utilization of ICH information and contents

Networking
Building and strengthening networks among ICH stakeholders to help efficient ICH transmission
**What is ichLinks?**

ichLinks is an online platform that hosts a wide range of ICH information and contents shared by and with Asia-Pacific Member States, with enhanced information search, browse, and management features.

- **Anyone interested in ICH such as researchers, practitioners, and policymakers can easily locate ICH information and contents shared through the ichLinks. They can also use the ICH information and contents to promote their cultural heritage and create socio-economic opportunities.**

**What contents will be shared?**

1. **ICH Elements:** Photos, videos, descriptions, and other related contents on ICH of each Member States

2. **ICH Resources:** Books, articles, reports, proceedings, and other important materials related to ICH

3. **ICH Stakeholders:** Governments, research institutes, NGOs, museums, cultural centers, specialized institutes and individual experts in the field of ICH

4. **ICH News and Events:** Exhibitions, performances, conferences, seminars, call for papers, and other ICH related news and events

**How it works**

ichLinks is designed to help its members easily collect, manage and share ICH information and contents in the Asia-Pacific region.

- ICH information and contents shared through the ichLinks can be used to create positive influences, including cultural diversity, economic development and social cohesion.

**How to Join?**

1. **Step 1: Be an ichLinks member**
   - Any specialized institutions or organizations in the ICH field are welcome to join as an ichLinks member. Those who wish to participate may get a designation after being duly authorized by their own national authorities in charge.

2. **Step 2: Join in the ichLinks**
   - ICHCAP is developing the ichLinks that is open to its members to freely share their ICH information and contents. The platform may also be connected to your database to easily exchange your contents with other ichLinks members.

3. **Step 3: Build networks with other ichLinks members**
   - ichLinks will not only allow you to share your ICH contents, but also give you an access to rich contents from other countries. You may use them for a variety of purposes, be it cultural, social or economic, that best cater to your needs.

**What are the benefits?**

- Easy search and free use of shared ICH contents
- Financial and technical support for developing your own database system
- Network building with other ichLinks members